

confidentiality practices. In each of these statements, BLS made a commitment to survey respondents regarding State uses of the data.

BLS recently proposed to the participating State agencies that a single confidentiality statement be adopted that would accurately reflect the treatment of data gathered in these surveys and give the States full responsibility for determining their appropriate uses of the data. States overwhelmingly favored this new approach, and the confidentiality statement was revised for the 1997 forms.

Substantive changes to Federal information collections must be approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) prior to implementation. Due to a BLS oversight, the States were instructed to use a revised confidentiality statement on the 1997 forms before the statement was submitted to OMB for clearance. Consequently the prior versions of the confidentiality statement, not the revised version which appeared for 1997, are the officially-approved statements.

Questions concerning this matter arose when BLS submitted the ARS clearance package for OMB approval, and a notice was published in the **Federal Register**. During that process, OMB received a public comment advising them that the confidentiality statement contained in the clearance package was already in use. OMB determined that the revised confidentiality statement is a substantive change which requires OMB clearance. BLS withdrew the ARS clearance package from OMB's docket to allow time for reconsideration of the new statement.

OMB has agreed that BLS and the States may continue 1997 ARS and MWR data collection using the correct forms without interruption.

However, because the revised confidentiality statement on the current forms is not approved by OMB, States are not required to use it. BLS is taking the following steps to bring the collections into full compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995:

- BLS has prepared a new confidentiality statement to put forward in emergency OMB clearances of the ARS and MWR. This statement will be on the forms which will be printed this summer and mailed out between October 1997 and January 1999. This statement is very similar to one of the alternative statements used earlier with these programs, and is as follows:

The information collected on this form by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the State agencies cooperating in its statistical programs will be used for statistical and Unemployment Insurance program purposes, and other purposes in accordance with law.

- Following-up on the emergency clearances, BLS will submit extension requests for three-year clearance of the ARS and MWR with the revised confidentiality statement. This process will include requests for public comment.

The confidentiality statements for the 1997 and 1998 forms conform to the following factors:

- BLS uses of the data are exclusively statistical.
- BLS may share the data with other Federal agencies for statistical purposes; however, as in the past, BLS will not share a State's confidential ES-202 data with another Federal agency unless that State has given BLS written permission to do so.
- BLS makes no confidentiality statement regarding State uses of the data.
- In some States, uses are not exclusively statistical.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 20th day of June, 1997.

**W. Stuart Rust, Jr.,**

*Chief, Division of Management Systems,  
Bureau of Labor Statistics.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-272 and 50-311]

### Public Service Electric and Gas Company; Notice of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued Amendment No. 196 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-70 and Amendment No. 179 to Facility Operating License NPF-75, issued to Public Service Electric & Gas Company (PSE&G, the licensee), which revised the Technical Specifications for operation of the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2, located in Salem County, New Jersey. The amendments are effective as of the date of issuance, to be implemented on each unit prior to entry into Mode 3 from its current outage.

The amendments modified the Technical Specification Table 3.3-5,

"Engineered Safety Features Response Time," to extend the Containment Fan Cooler Unit response time from 45 to 60 seconds.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment.

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for a Hearing in connection with this action was published in the **Federal Register** on November 21, 1996 (62 FR 59249). No request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

The Commission has prepared an Environmental Assessment related to the action and has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement. Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission has concluded that the issuance of the amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment (62 FR 26573).

For further details with respect to the action see (1) the application for amendment dated October 25, 1996, as supplemented December 11, 1996, and January 28, March 27, April 24, June 3, and June 12, 1997, (2) Amendment No. 196 to License No. DPR-70 and Amendment No. 179 to License No. DPR-75, (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation, and (4) the Commission's Environmental Assessment. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Salem Free Public Library, 112 West Broadway, Salem, New Jersey 08079.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of June 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Leonard N. Olshan,**

*Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate I-2, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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